



# be ye reconciled to God

2 Corinthians 5:20

the weekly digest of ambassador|baptistchurch

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## from the pastor's heart

### SMELLING OF THE FIRE?



...be ye holy...

1 Peter 1:16

The doctrine of separation is seldom heard of or taught today; it is, simply put, God setting us apart from sin and apart unto Himself to serve and love Him and to do His will in this life at the point of our salvation. There is no higher call for the Christian except to live for Christ - the Creator of the Universe. One would think that the Head of State would

be the highest call for a citizen of a land, but to be called by the Head of State to serve him would be a great honour in itself. We are called by the King of kings and the Lord of lords to serve Him by being separated unto Him. Notice four important principles regarding this command to be separated:

SEPARATION PREVENTS SINFUL POLLUTION OF OUR SOUL.

All sin is sin against God; sin pollutes, corrupts and destroys. When there is sin in a Christian's life, there is no power and no ability to see what God has for the individual, let alone serve Him. All service, when there is the presence of sin, will not be glorifying to God, neither sanctioned by Him. God is not interested in, neither will He honour unholy vessels. The

continued on page 2

## today's program

the news

hymn | *onward, christian soldiers*

opening prayer

hymn | *i am resolved*

hymn | *it will be worth it all*

offertory

hymn | *take the world but give me  
Jesus*

exhortation | *pastor johnny*

invitation and closing

## from the pastor's heart

command to separate ensures that our service for Him and with Him is uncorrupted and unpolluted.

SEPARATION ENSURES THAT WE HAVE POWER WITH HIM.

If we regard sin in our lives, God will not hear us (Psalms 66:18). If God does not hear our prayer, we are doomed in this world, left to the whims and fancies of the Evil One. However, when we would obey God to be separate from sin, the prevention of sin in our lives keeps the soul clean and the spirit sensitive to hear God and to allow God's power to flow through.

SEPARATION DEVELOPS OUR TESTIMONY THAT WE ARE CHRISTIANS.

That means that, as Christians, we choose not to sin, listen to rebellious rock music, swear or use vulgar language, use the pleasures of this world such as movies, karaoke and the like, smoke, gamble, drink alcohol because we are separated for the Lord. Just as it is an offence for a soldier to drink disobey military law by drinking alcohol or gambling whilst on duty, it is an offence when we disobey the King's commandments in His service. When we live the separated life, we have a strong testimony for the Lord.


SEPARATION BEGINS AT SALVATION AND IS INITIATED BY THE DESIRE TO BE BAPTIZED.

This is the first step of obedience and it will open the door to both the blessings of God and the opposition of the Evil One. However, to be baptized tells God and the world that you are serious about God, His mission and His cause, and that you are willing to love God and give up the things of this world for God.

There was a man who loved to play with fire. He was constantly burning items, both in the house and outside. One day, unfortunately, he played one time too many. In a moment of carelessness, a gust of wind blew some sparks away from this man's smothering straw and the curtains caught fire. The flames some engulfed the house leaving the man trapped within. When the firemen came to rescue him, he was unconscious and choked with smoke. His friend met him in hospital and told him that he smelled of the smoke. Dear reader, do we smell of the smoke of this world, or do we have the fragrance of the Lord Jesus and His love emanating from us?

Be ye set apart, that is the commandment of the Lord.

*Evangelist-Pastor Johnny Tan  
Ambassador Baptist Church*



*Sin pollutes,  
corrupts, and  
destroys.*

## thought for the week

We are to be separated from this world and separate unto the service of God

## memory verse

That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

Philippians 2:15

sermon notes: sermon guide

Sunday Worship Service

28 August 2011

"How to be effective for God in the Midst of an Anti-God Culture"

I. The title for today's message is \_\_\_\_\_

II. The passage for today's message is \_\_\_\_\_

III. How was Moses effective for God?

A. He had p\_\_\_\_\_ of f\_\_\_\_\_

1. They made decisions based on \_\_\_\_\_

2. Their eye of \_\_\_\_\_ saw that Moses was special

3. They were not \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ of this world

B. He \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ this world would give him

1. How did he \_\_\_\_\_ ?

a) By \_\_\_\_\_

b) By D\_\_\_\_\_

C. He \_\_\_\_\_ the s\_\_\_\_\_ and n\_\_\_\_\_ way

1. He chose to be \_\_\_\_\_

2. He chose to f\_\_\_\_\_ p\_\_\_\_\_

3. He chose to i\_\_\_\_\_ with the p\_\_\_\_\_ of G\_\_\_\_\_

D. He was \_\_\_\_\_ on C\_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Worship Service

28 August 2011

"How to be effective for God in the Midst of an Anti-God Culture"

Turn to: **Hebrews 11: 23 – 26**

**1 Peter 1:14 - 16** As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

**1 Corinthians 10:31** Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

**Acts 7:22 - 23** And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds. And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel.

**Romans 10:17** So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

**Proverbs 22:6** Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

**2 Timothy 3:15** And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

**Joshua 24:15** And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

**Psalms 119:111-112** Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart. I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes always, even unto the end.

**John 6:68** Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.

**Daniel 1:8** But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

**Matthew 7:14** Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

**Hebrews 12:2** Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

# Friday Church News Notes

## *Immoral Country Pop Music*

Friday Church News Notes, August 26, 2011 [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org)

Shania Twain is not only popular on the country scene, she's crossed over into pop, giving her a much broader audience. Her music is typical of country-pop, with its moral raunchiness covered with a thin veneer of powerless religion. Consider an excerpt from her song, "God Ain't Gonna Getcha For That." "Hey you, sittin' in the corner/ Can't ya hear the jukebox playin'/ Everybody's up doing the two-step/ And you're not even tappin' your toe/ Won't you let a lady buy you a cold brew/ Loosen you up a little more than you dare to/ Maybe take a ride in my Cadillac/ God ain't gonna getcha for that. ... He's much to busy with the guys in the black hats/ There's nothin' wrong with a man and a woman flirtin' with a honky-tonk moon/ God ain't gonna pay no attention/ If we're just makin' use of his invention/ Come on, baby don't hold back/ God ain't gonna getcha for that." God did invent male and female, but He has also instructed the male and female how to use His "invention." The Bible says sexual relations outside of marriage are immoral and God will definitely "getcha for that." The country music world has a gloss of religiosity, but at its heart we find open rebellion against the God of the Bible and His holy laws. Country music religion pretends that a person can love God and this wicked world, too. The Scriptures warn that this is impossible: "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God" (James 4:4).

## **SOUTHERN ROCKER HELPED GRAHAM ROCK THE LAKE**

Franklin Graham and his organization conducted the ecumenical "Rock the Lakes" event in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, last weekend. The event promoted unity among all churches and carnal rock entertainment was provided by the likes of Skillet, Lecrae, The Afters, The Almost, and Charlie Daniels Band.



One of Daniels' hits is "The Devil Went Down to Georgia," a foolish song about a country fiddler who enters a contest with the devil over his soul and wins. Another of his hits was "Long Haired Country Boy" about a young man who is "gets stoned in the morning and drunk in the afternoon" and mocks preachers and says to those who "don't like the way I'm livin'" to leave him alone. Charlie Daniels will be held accountable for the corrupt influence he has had through his music, and Franklin Graham will be held accountable for mixing Christ with the world. "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is

not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever" (1 John 2:15-17).

## **TELEVISION SLEAZE INCREASES**

The modern entertainment industry, which drives the Western pop culture, has been on a downhill slide since its inception. Every decade has brought a new level of moral degradation. Consider the following excerpt from "Children Sink into Adult Swim," CNSNews, Aug. 19, 2011: "[A]fter dark, the Cartoon Network turns -- from Jekyll to Hyde -- into the Adult Swim Channel. But that's not at midnight. Since December, it's been moved into prime time at 9 p.m. Eastern, 8 p.m. Central. Even before that, Nielsen reported in 2008 that the top U.S. networks for teenagers were Fox, Nickelodeon, Disney -- and Adult Swim. [One show, *Robert Chicken*, features Jesus hitting people and using God's name in vain.] In a new survey of the top 20 animated cable shows, the Parents Television Council gave an F grade to the Cartoon Network and its 'Adult Swim' bloc for excessive sex, violence, profanity, and drug use. In watching just 123 programs in a four-week study period, the PTC documented one thousand four hundred and eighty-seven examples of offensive material ... on cartoons. On average, young viewers were exposed to this junk once every two minutes and 19 seconds. ... There were 680 sexual references or depictions. Some were typically sleazy, and some went way beyond. ... These cartoons were loaded with 565 incidents of explicit language -- much of it bleeped out of necessity, even by today's bohemian standards. ... There were 242 references to drug use. ... If you think this isn't aiming 'adult' material squarely at children, check out how this network often rates its sleazy programming: TV-PG, or acceptable for children under 14 with parental guidance 'suggested.'"



## TEXAS JUDGE RULES CONTRARY TO TEXAS LAW

Following in a long line of haughty judges who rule by judicial fiat instead of the law, Texas District Court Judge Jose Longoria convicted a mother for spanking her daughter. At her sentencing in June, Rosalina Gonzales was berated by the judge with these words: “You don’t spank children today. In the old days, maybe we got spanked, but there was a different quarrel. You don’t spank children. You understand?” (“Local Mother Sentenced for Spanking,” KZTV10, Corpus Christi, June 15, 2011). There was no evidence that Gonzales had abused her daughter, though the spanking had left red marks on her rear end. Judge Longoria had no legal basis for his decision other than his own opinion, since there is no Texas state law or U.S. federal law that outlaws spanking. The Texas Attorney General’s website’s article “Is Spanking Okay?” says: “Texas law allows the use of force, but not deadly force, against a child by the child’s parent, guardian, or other person who is acting in loco parentis. Most parents do, in fact, use corporal punishment (in the form of spanking) at least occasionally, and most do not, in fact, consider it

abusive. ... The law does not attempt to arbitrate between the different views on the best method of disciplining a child. What we do know is that severe corporal punishment can be extremely damaging and dangerous, and this is what the law prohibits as abuse.”



## COMPLICITY WITH ERROR DESTROYS THE POWER OF PROTEST

Some have asked me why “so and so” and “so and so” don’t speak out plainly against the errors and compromises I have warned about within the Independent Baptist movement. I think Charles Spurgeon, pastor of the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London, England, nailed it about 100 years ago. Though misunderstood and misrepresented even by his own brother and some of his former students, Spurgeon did not draw back from separating from the Baptist Union of Britain because of the false doctrine that was being countenanced. He said: “COMPLICITY WITH ERROR WILL TAKE FROM THE BEST OF MEN THE POWER TO ENTER ANY SUCCESSFUL PROTEST AGAINST IT. It is our solemn conviction that where there can be no real spiritual communion there should be no pretense of fellowship.

Fellowship with known and vital error is participation in sin. As soon as I saw, or thought I saw, that error had become firmly established, I did not deliberate, but quitted the body at once. Since then my counsel has been ‘Come out from among them.’ I have felt that no protest could be equal to that of distinct separation from known evil. That I might not stultify my testimony I HAVE CUT MYSELF CLEAR OF THOSE WHO ERR FROM THE FAITH, AND EVEN FROM THOSE WHO ASSOCIATE WITH THEM.” This position is ridiculed today as “secondary separation,” but it is actually obedience to God’s Word (2 Thess. 3:6) and it is the path of wisdom, because “*evil communications corrupt good manners*” (1 Cor. 15:33).

## THE VOICE OF THE LORD

The following by John Ecob is from *The Herald of Hope*, August 2011: “In Psalm 29 David described a storm approaching from the sea. It smashed the cedars of Lebanon in the north, and shook the wilderness of Kedesh in the south. Seven times he mentions the ‘voice of the Lord’ (vs. 3-9) and asks us to ‘give unto the Lord the glory due unto his holy name’ (v. 2). In His Temple ‘doth every one speak of his glory’ (v. 9) and he reminds us that the Lord is in

control and “sitteth king for ever’ (v. 10). He ‘will bless his people with peace’ (v. 11). The pagan god, ‘mother nature,’ has nothing to do with storms, which our Heavenly Father sends to show His power and to get our attention. He also sends the storms of life. Have you heard His voice? do you give Him the glory?”

## PASTOR TIRED OF THE FUNDAMENTAL BAPTIST “FIT IN” APPROACH

In reply to the preacher who said I am arrogant and vindictive, which we published recently [“Reply to Preacher,” August 22], Pastor David Smith, Community Baptist Church, Quakertown, Pennsylvania, wrote the following: “Brother, it’s a sad day when preachers and men in places of spiritual leadership across this country hold back the younger generation from the words of truth (Prov. 22:21; Eccl. 12:10) which aid in gaining discernment. What in the world is this brother proving by pounding on you with words of intimidation in corralling the ill perceptions of ‘vast number of men’ and the statement that ‘no major fundamental Baptist college will carry your materials.’ Is this the tactic that will silence a ‘Jeremiah’ to change or compromise the message? Have we come to the place that endorsement and affirmation of majorities determines authority and acceptability? I WEARY OF THIS ‘FIT IN’

APPROACH WHICH IS ALMOST BECOMING A SPIRITUAL ‘POLITICALLY CORRECTISM’ AMONG IBAPTISTS. I’ve said this before and will say it again, any ministries’ publicized and promoted beliefs, methodologies, philosophies, theologies, and ideologies are fair game for public, critical examination, evaluation, exhortation, condemnation or commendation based on the unchanging standard for faith and practice -- the truth of the eternal Word (1 Thess. 5:21-22). Has this brother ever considered that there are preachers across the land who will not carry the materials of major fundamental Baptist colleges because of doctrinal ambiguity and neutralism? Thank you for helping the people of God in these confusing days to “... have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil” (Heb. 5:14).

## IS THE GOD OF THE OLD TESTAMENT CRUEL AND UNJUST?

Unbelievers have long used Israel’s destruction of pagan nations in Canaan as evidence that the God of the Old Testament is unjust and cruel (Deut. 7:2). What they refuse to take into consideration are the following facts: First, God waited 400 years before judging these wicked nations, which reminds us that He is very longsuffering with man (Genesis 15:13-16). Second, the nations in question were devoted to every sort of vile moral perversion, including incest and the burning of their children. It is not morally wrong for a holy, lawgiving God to punish those who willfully, flagrantly, and unrepentantly break His laws. Those who charge God with injustice and cruelty for punishing wicked nations are hypocritical, because they themselves believe in law and order and support the punishment of those who commit crimes such as rape and child molestation and murder. Three, God was merciful to those like Rahab who believed (Joshua 2). The whole tenor of Scripture teaches that God delights in mercy more than in punishment. He “is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9). He wants all men to be saved (1 Timothy 2:4). Four, it was necessary for those wicked pagan nations to be overthrown so that Israel could be established in that land as a light to the world. Had they been left alone, Israel would have been corrupted morally and religiously within a very short time (Deut. 7:2-6). The destruction of those nations was actually an act of great compassion on God’s part. The pagan nations that were destroyed deserved what they got, and by exercising His righteous judgment on them at that time God was providing blessing for the whole world. Through Israel God gave the world His divine revelation in the Bible, and through Israel He brought the Saviour into the world to provide salvation. “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that

whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). Those who charge God with injustice and cruelty ignore the fact that God Himself paid the price demanded of His own holy law so that men can be saved. The heart of God was revealed in the amazing words that Jesus spoke from the cross in regard to the people who had so terribly, unjustly abused him: “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” The God revealed in the Bible is the most compassionate Person in the universe. In fact, He is the source of all true love and compassion, but He is also a thrice holy, lawgiving God, and He cannot be judged by man’s puny, inconsistent standards.



*Canaanite child sacrifice*

## WHAT'S INSIDE A MONARCH BUTTERFLY EGG?

Within this tiny egg, only about an eighth of an inch long, is an entire world of genetic information. It contains the instructions for the construction of the caterpillar with the intelligence it needs to operate all of its organs (eyes, antennae, legs, etc.), to maneuver within its environment, to digest leaves, to avoid predators, to know when and how to molt, to pupate, etc. It contains the instructions for the incredibly complex process of the final molting and formation of the pupa, including the amazing cremaster mechanism. It contains the instructions for the death and dissolution of the caterpillar into a biological soup and the reformation of that soup into a beautiful butterfly. It contains the instructions not only to construct the butterfly in all of its mind-boggling complexity (e.g., its proboscis, its compound eyes, its intricately shingled wings, its sensory organs, its

reproductive organs) but also the instructions to create the butterfly's brain and the intelligence needed to thrive within its environment, to fly, to land, to avoid predators, to find the right plants and flowers, to drink and digest nectar, to keep its cold-blooded metabolism in balance, to reproduce. It contains the instructions for a bewildering multi-thousand mile migration to a place it has never been and in the absence of any earthly guide. It would seem, in fact, that the genetic code within that tiny monarch butterfly egg contains a map of a large part of the earth. And it contains the information for constructing hundreds of copies of itself. If the butterfly evolved, then evolution is miraculous and has the attributes of Almighty God!



### Conclusion

Friends in Christ, do not be discouraged by any of this. It is God's will that we know the times (1 Ch. 12:32; Mat. 16:3) and that we be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. These things remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the coming of the Lord. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ day by day? "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof" (Rom. 13:11-14). This material is sent only to those who personally subscribe to the Fundamental Baptist Information Service list. To SUBSCRIBE or UNSUBSCRIBE or CHANGE ADDRESSES go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/fbis/subscribe.html>. Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org). David Cloud is the director of Way of Life Literature and author of the Friday Church News Notes.







## news highlights

### COMING UP

## IN THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

What's going on in Ambassador in the month of September?



### Prayer Retreat

7 - 9 September 2011

38 Pasir Ris Avenue, Singapore 519705

The following members also have their birthdays in the month of September. We thank God for another year of learning and growth!

### COUNTDOWNS

days to:



**Prayer Retreat  
2011**

7 - 9 September

Details below

### COMING UP

## CALL FOR WORKERS

Ambassador Youth Camp 2011



Ambassador's Youth Ministry will be holding its inaugural youth camp this November. The five-day camp will be packed with sound Bible teaching and old-fashioned singing, as well as lots of good, clean, wholesome fun!

The Youth Ministry is calling for committed Christians to join them in this camp to reach young people for Christ! Here are some ways that you can help.

Be a:

- Preacher
- Counsellor and devotion group leader
- Worship leader
- Games coordinator/helper
- Food coordinator or cook
- Treasurer
- First-aider
- T-shirt designer

Registration will begin in October. For more details or to serve, get in touch with the Youth Camp team at [youthcamp@ambassador-baptist.org](mailto:youthcamp@ambassador-baptist.org)

## THE VISION AND MISSION OF AMBASSADOR

“To win the north of Singapore for Christ and a thousand souls for Christ in five years.”

## THEME FOR THE MONTH:

The Christian and His Culture

## YOUTH CAMP 2011

**Dates:** 21 - 25 November 2011

**Venue:** Aloha Changi Fairy Point Chalet 7



the week at a glance

29 AUGUST - 4 SEPTEMBER 2011

29 Aug	30 Aug	31 Aug	1 Sep	2 Sep	3 Sep	4 Sep
monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	sunday
Faith Bible Institute	Outreach Efforts (Visitation Only)	Outreach Efforts (Visitation Only)		Rivers In a Dry Place	ABC Youth	Worship Service

timings

**Sunday Services**

Children's Bible Hour 09:30AM  
 Sunday Bible Hour 09:30AM  
 Mandarin Service 09:30AM  
*(new service timings begin 11 Sep)*  
 English Worship Service 11:00AM

**Outreach Efforts -**

SEMBAWANG  
 Person-in-Charge: Bro. Robert  
 Tuesdays, 08:15PM  
  
 YISHUN  
 Person-in-Charge: *We need one.*  
 Wednesdays, 08:15PM

**Routine Weekly Activities**

Faith Bible Institute  
*Mondays, 07:45PM*  
  
 "Rivers in a Dry Place"  
*Fridays, 08:00PM*  
  
 Ambassador Youth  
*Saturdays, 10:30AM*

For more information on our weekly activities, visit our website at [www.ambassador-baptist.org](http://www.ambassador-baptist.org)

get in touch

We'd love to hear from you, be it feedback about this bulletin, requests for material, or just about any other query you may have about Christ, His Kingdom, and Ambassador. Contact us by:

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prayer list and thanksgiving

- **The new place**
- The vision of Ambassador: To Win the North for Christ!
- The various ministries
- Growth of Ambassador and its members

WANT TO SHARE?  
 Have an item of prayer or praise that you wish to share? Send them to [media@ambassador-baptist.org](mailto:media@ambassador-baptist.org) and we will publish them for you!

church building fund - project tabernacle

Ambassador Baptist Church has been blessed with more people. God has also miraculously provided us with a more permanent place of worship at Woodlands which is due in 2nd quarter 2013 to cater for our expansion.

We will need the Lord to provide us with \$180,000 to be used for renovating the new place; we will need to raise \$25,715 every three months.

If you are a Christian and believe in the Lord's work in Ambassador, you may contribute regularly by enclosing it in an envelope indicating "Church Building Fund" and dropping it into the offering bag during the service.